



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

GEOGRAPHICAL LITERATURE AND MAPS.

(INCLUDING ACCESSIONS TO THE LIBRARY.)

BOOK NOTICES.

Deutschland und der Kongostaat. Ein Appell an die deutschen Handelskammern. By Ernst Vohsen. 72 pp., and Map. Dietrich Reimer (Ernst Vohsen), Berlin, 1908. M. 1.

A strong and able criticism of the trade policy of the former Congo State. The Berlin Congress of 1885 provided that all nations should enjoy complete freedom of trade in the entire Congo Basin. Monopolies and special privileges were expressly forbidden. But in spite of these provisions, the government of the Congo State declared all land not actually occupied by the natives to be government domain and monopolized in these large regions the rubber and ivory trade, extorted forced labour from the natives and made it impossible for any one not in the government service to carry on business. Later, wide areas were assigned to certain trading companies, in which the government was interested, exclusive privileges were given to them and free trade was absolutely a dead letter in the State. At the same time Germany was extending her railroad system in German East Africa, towards the west, and the export products of the eastern Congo region would naturally go to the Indian Ocean as the shortest route to the sea, but the Congo government was opposed to such a diversion of trade from its own routes to the Atlantic.

Mr. Vohsen has, in this brochure, fully set forth the facts as involving questions of great national importance in Germany, and appeals to the business interests of the country to bring their influence to bear upon the German government with a view to an official demand that the terms of the Congo Act be fulfilled. Now that the régime of the Congo State has been supplanted by that of the Belgian Colony of the Congo, it may be that the intentions of the Berlin Congress will, at last, be carried out.

Les Planètes et leur origine. Par Ch. André. ii and 285 pp., 94 Figures in the Text and 4 Plates. Gauthier-Villars, Paris, 1909. Frs. 8.

The author, Director of the Lyons Observatory, divides his book into three parts, devoting the first to the planets, the second to the satellites, and the third to the formation of the planetary system. His introductory chapter is a brief statement of the three fundamental laws of Kepler relating to the planetary orbits and the law, established by the mathematician Titius and the astronomer Bode, governing the distances of the planets from the sun. The book is extremely well and clearly written, is finely illustrated and will fully serve the purposes of a work of reference and a popular elucidation of the subject. In the chapter given to Mercury and Venus, Mr. André discusses and approves of the temperature investigations of Professor Poynting, the Birmingham astronomer, who assigned these mean temperatures: Mercury, 193° C.; Venus, 66° C.; and the Earth, 16° C. In his long chapter on Mars, he presents the views of Lowell and Pickering as to the existence of animal life on that planet, together with the objections to that hypo-

thesis, and expresses the opinion that the Martian canals may be merely an optical delusion. The third chapter is given to an excellent discussion of the asteroids, which adds little to previous treatises except that the author gives the details of the discovery, in 1906, at Heidelberg, of the minor planet T.—G., by Mr. Kopff. Each of the other large planets has a chapter and we have the author's opinion that there are no planets inside of Mercury or beyond Neptune, for there is little doubt that they would have been discovered if they had existed.

Mr. André's study of the satellites, in the second part, is interesting, not only for his historical development of the subject, but also for the information they afford as to the physical constitution of the planets they accompany. His story of the discovery of the eighth satellite of Jupiter shows that the author has availed himself of the most recent astronomical data. Mr. Melotte, of the Greenwich Observatory, reported the discovery, on Jan. 27, 1908, of a very feeble star (16th magnitude) which he thought was an asteroid. It is in the part of the heavens near Jupiter, and later observations suggested the idea that it was a satellite of that planet. They also supplied data from which Mr. Crommelin was able to calculate its relative orbit and he found that it was the eighth of Jupiter's satellites, twice as distant from the planet as the sixth and seventh satellites, making its revolution in three and a half years and presenting the anomaly of having a retrograde orbit. The third part, dealing with the formation of the planetary system, recounts the nebular hypothesis of Laplace and its subsequent modifications and enlargements by later students, but says nothing of the new hypothesis of planetary origination evolved by Professor Chamberlin of the University of Chicago.

Südamerikanische Felszeichnungen. Von Dr. Theodor Koch-Grünberg. 92 pp., 36 Illustrations in the Text, 29 Plates, Map and Index. Ernst Wasmuth, Berlin, 1907.

The book, very finely produced, is an exceptional contribution to knowledge of primitive carvings on rocks throughout South America. The well-known explorer not only describes and illustrates all the petroglyphs and drawings he found during his pioneer exploration on the upper Negro River and its western tributaries and on the Apaporis affluent of the Yapurá R., but he also summarizes similar discoveries made by earlier explorers and reproduces many of their pictures. These rock engravings or drawings are, in fact, very widely distributed in South America, and especially in the Amazon basin and the entire north of the continent. He finds that many of the explanations of these rock pictures, given by his predecessors, are more or less fantastic. The subjects cover a wide range, many representing animals, utensils, weapons, masks, the rude ornamentation on various Indian manufactures, etc.; others appear to be merely the whim of an idle hour, and all illustrate the lowest stages of culture. The work does not deal with the rock pictures in the Cordilleras which represent a more advanced degree of culture and are of a very different character. It is interesting to hear that the later Indians give considerable attention to deepening the work of their fathers and thus keep them from obliteration.

Haiti. Son histoire et ses détracteurs. Par J. N. Léger. 411 pp., 15 Illustrations from Photographs and Appendixes. The Neale Publishing Co., New York and Washington, 1907.

The book is also issued in English. It will help to stimulate more intelligent interest in Haiti and its people. The author, Minister of Haiti to this country,